



Texas Department of Transportation

VEHICLE TITLES AND REGISTRATION DIVISION • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78779-0001 • (512) 465-7611

June 20, 2000

Registration and Title Bulletin # 60-00

TO: ALL COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTORS

SUBJECT: REVISED PROCEDURE FOR ISSUANCE OF DISABLED PERSON IDENTIFICATION PLACARDS

PURPOSE

To inform you that procedures for issuance of Disabled Person Identification Placards have been revised.

OLD POLICY

The original procedures stated that, on and after September 1, 1999, **Blue** Disabled Person Identification Placards would only be issued to individuals with a permanent, mobility-related disability. All other permanently disabled persons would receive a **Red** Disabled Person Identification Placard, as would all temporarily disabled persons.

NEW POLICY

Effective July 1, 2000, the criteria for issuance of the placards is based upon whether or not the disability is defined by Transportation Code §681.001(5)(B) or (C) as well as whether it is permanent or temporary in nature. Consequently, **both Blue and Red Disabled Person Identification Placards will be issued for permanent and temporary disabilities**. The type of disability determines what color placard will be issued, as described below:

- A person with a disability such that the person cannot walk without the use of or assistance from an assistance device, including a brace, cane, crutch, another person or a prosthetic device, or who cannot ambulate without a wheelchair or similar device, will be issued a **Blue** Disabled Person Identification Placard; or
- A person with a disability of a type other than defined above will be issued a **Red** Disabled Person Identification Placard.

Because **Blue and Red** placards will now be issued for both permanent and temporary disabilities, the placards have been revised to include the words "Perm" and "Temp" just below the Driver's License Number field on either side of the wheelchair symbol. Placards will be differentiated by punching out "Perm" (if issuing a permanent placard) or "Temp" (if issuing a temporary placard). **It is very important that this be done! Otherwise, in the future, it may not be possible to tell if a placard was issued for a permanent disability or a temporary disability.**

Until you receive a supply of the revised placards, it will be necessary for you to indicate on the current placard, when issued, if it is issued for a permanent or temporary disability. This may be accomplished by writing "Perm" (permanent) or "Temp" (temporary) in the area just below the Driver's License Number field on the right side of the wheelchair symbol (see attached example). **It is very important that this be done! Otherwise, in the future, it may not be possible to tell if a placard was issued for a permanent disability or a temporary disability.**

Length of time placards are valid.

There will be no change to the length of time placards are valid. Permanently Disabled Person Identification Placards are still valid for four (4) years from the date of issuance. Temporarily Disabled Person Identification Placards are still valid for six (6) months from the date of issuance (or until the end of the disability, whichever comes first).